

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 04426 030306Z

62

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-19 AEC-11 AF-10 ARA-16 CIAE-00

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NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-10 OIC-04 SPC-03 PA-04 PRS-01

RSC-01 SCI-06 SS-20 USIA-15 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /210 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NEWYORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 752

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 4426

DISTO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, UK, CA, NE IT, JA

SUBJ: DISARMAMENT: CCD WESTERN GROUP MEETING NOV 2 --

SWEDISH NAPALM RES, CANADIAN CTB RES

REF: (A) USUN 4297; (B) USUN 4210

1. SUMMARY. UK DEL REQUESTED MEETING OF WESTERN SIX MEMBERS OF CCD (US, UK, ITALY, JAPAN, NETHERLANDS, CANADA) NOV 2 TO OUTLINE REVISED UK POSITION ON QUESTION OF NAPALM AND OTHER CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS. HAINWORTH (UK) SAID THAT UK NOW BELIEVES THAT QUESTION COULD BE STUDIED UNDER AUSPICES ICRC. AT SAME TIME, UK CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT THE BEST FORUM FOR CONSIDERATION THESE MATTERS IS CCD. IN EXPLAINING CHANGE, HAINWORTH NOTED SWEDISH FLEXIBILITY ON PROCEDURES

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 USUN N 04426 030306Z

FOR CONSIDERATION OF CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS UNDER ICRC AUSPOICES.

HE ALSO NOTED THAT SWEDES ARE REVISING LANGUAGE OF DRAFT NAPALM RES (REF A) AND THAT UK MAY BE ABLE SUPPORT OR EVEN CO-SPONSOR A REVISED DRAFT, DEPENDING, OF COURSE, ON THE REVISIONS. (SEPTTEL CONTAINS NEW TEXT SUBMITTED LATER IN DAY.) CTB WAS ALSO DISCUSSED. END SUMMARY.

2. UK DEL REQUESTED WESTERN GROUP MEETING NOV 2 TO DISCUSS MODIFICATION OF BRITISH POSITION ON QUESTION OF INCENDIARY AND OTHER CONVENTIONAL WZAPONS. AMB HAINWORTH SAID THAT UK'S MAIN DESIRE WAS TO ASSURE THAT CONSIDERATION OF THIS ISSUE WOULD NOT INTERFERE WITH NEGOTIATIONS ON DRAFT PROTOCOLS AT 1974 DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE ON HUMANITARIAN LAW APPLICABLE TO ARMED CONFLICTS. THEREFORE, ASSUMING IT WAS NECESSARY TO DISCUSS QUESTION OF CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS, UK HAD IN PAST FAVORED REFERRING SUCH DISCUSSION TO CCD. HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF LIKELY STRONG SUPPORT FOR SWEDISH DRAFT RES REQUESTING CONSIDERATION OF NAPALM AT THE 1974 DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE, BRITISH NOW BELIEVED THAT, INSTEAD OF TRYING TO PREVENT CONSIDERATION AT THE CONFERENCE, THEY SHOULD SUPPORT POSITION THAT FURTHER STUDY OF SPECIFIC CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED UNDER AUSPICES ICRC. HAINWORTH WISHED TO MAKE CLEAR THAT UK STILL CONTINUES TO THINK THE BEST FORUM FOR SUCH CONSIDERATION WOULD BE THE CCD, AND THAT THOSE WHO WERE PUSHING FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE ON HUMANITARIAN LAW WERE DOING NO SERVICE TO THE CCD OR TO ARMS CONTROL IN GENERAL. HAINWORTH EXPLAINED THAT IMPORTANT FACTOR IN UK DECISION WAS THAT THE ACTUAL SWEDISH POSITION ON CONSIDERATION OF SPECIFIC CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS WAS MUCH MORE FLEXIBLE THAN MME. MYRDAL'S SPEECH OF OCT 30 ON THE SUBJECT HAD INDICATED. HAINWORTH REPORTED THAT THE SWEDES WERE WILLING TO CONSIDER ESTABLISHMENT OF A SPECIAL GROUP UNDER THE FRAMEWORK OF THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE WHICH DID NOT HAVE ANY DEADLINE AND WAS NOT COMMITTED TO ARRIVING AT ANY SPECIFIC RESULTS; IT MIGHT EVENTUALLY MAKE NO RECOMMENDATIONS OR EVEN A RECOMMENDATION THAT FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF THESE WEAPONS SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN IN THE CCD. HAINWORTH ALSO REPORTED THAT THE SWEDES WERE PREPARING A REVISED DRAFT OF THEIR RESOLUTION. IF IT WAS ACCEPTABLE THE UK COULD SUPPORT IT OR MIGHT EVEN CO-SPONSOR IT.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 USUN N 04426 030306Z

3. BRUNI (ITALY) SAID THAT HIS DELEGATION HWD AS YET NO REACTION TO THE SWEDISH DRAFT RES AND THAT HIS GOVERNMENT MAINTAINED ITS POSITION THAT CONSIDERATION OF SPECIFIC CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN ONLY BY THE CCD. BARTON (CANADA) NOTED THAT CANADA HAD SUGGESTED SOME REVISED LANGUAGE FOR DRAFT RES TO SWEDISH DEL IN EFFORT ASSURE THAT NAPALM ISSUE DID NOT DISTURB OTHER ICRC

WORK. HE BELIEVED THAT ITS SUGGESTIONS WOULD, TO SOME EXTENT, BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN A FORTHCOMING REVISED TEXT.

4. NISIBORI (JAPAN) SAID THAT JAPANESE HAD NOT YET FORMULATED SPECIFIC POSITION ON SWEDISH RES. THEY BELIEVED NAPALM AND OTHER WEAPONS INVOLVED SHOULD EVENTUALLY BE TAKEN UP IN THE CCD, BUT IF PARTICIPANTS IN THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE WISHED TO DISCUSS NAPALM, JAPAN DID NOT SEE HOW IT COULD OPPOSE SUCH DISCUSSION.

5. COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN. BARTON (CANADA) STATED THAT HIS DEL HAD RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS FROM OTTAWA NOT RPT NOT TO ACCEPT AMENDMENTS TO CANADIAN DRAFT RESOLUTION (REF B) WHICH WOQLD "CONDEMN" NUCLEAR TESTS OR POINT THE FINGER AT TESTING IN ANY PARTICULAR GEOGRAPHIC REGION (I.E. THE PACIFIC). BARTON HAS INFORMED AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND OF THESE INSTRUCTIONS AND EXPECTS TO HEAR FROM THEM SOON WHETHER, ON THIS BASIS, THEY WILL CONTINUE TO WORK WITH THE CANADIAN DRAFTING GROUP TOWARD A COMMON CTB RESOLUTION. (CANADIAN DELOFF (ROWE) TOLD US DELOFF ON NOV 1 THAT CANADIANS ARE WORKING ON NUMBER OF MODIFICATIONS OF EXISTING TEXT. IN PARTICULAR, IN LAT OPERATIVE PARA, CO-CHAIRMEN WOULD NO LONGER BE SINGLED OUT. INSTEAD, CCD MEMBERS, ESPECIALLY NUCLEAR POWERS AND PARTIES TO LIMITED TEST BAN TREATY, WOULD BE REMINDED OF THEIR SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY. ROWE ALSO THOUGHT SOME OF PREAMBULAR CHANGES MIGHT POSSIBLY BE HELPFUL TO US. HE CONCLUDED THAT EXISTING VERSION OF DRAFT HAD SEVERAL BRACKETED PORTIONS AND THAT ATTEMPT TO REACH AGREED LANGUAGE WOULD ONLY BE MADE AFTER AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND DECISIONS CONCERNING CONTINUED PARTICIPATON IN DRAFTING GROUP.)

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